

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2003

LCO No. 6768

HB0639406768HR0

Offered by:

REP. BERNHARD, 136th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6394

File No. 334

Cal. No. 225

(As Amended)

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION."

- 1 Strike section 506 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu
- 2 thereof:
- 3 "Sec. 506. Section 26-69 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):
- 5 The commissioner may engage in wildlife management practices,
- 6 [and may expend from federal aid funds necessary moneys to
- 7 establish, construct and maintain, on any state-owned land and water
- 8 under his control and, with the consent of the owner, on private land
- 9 and water, wildlife propagation installations, facilities and associated
- 10 structures, experimental stations and facilities, and perform, or have
- 11 performed, any work related to the establishment, restoration,
- 12 improvement, control and protection of wildlife habitats, and perform

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13 or have performed any work related to the creation of facilities for 14 ingress and egress and the creation of facilities for public use of any 15 area under its control] including, but not limited to: (1) Managing the 16 wildlife resources of the state to provide sustainable, healthy 17 populations of diverse wildlife species, including endangered and 18 threatened species, consistent with professional wildlife management 19 principles; (2) conducting research to better understand processes and 20 relationships affecting wildlife and habitats; (3) conducting public 21 awareness and technical assistance programs to enhance privately-22 owned habitat and promote an appreciation for and understanding of 23 the value and use of wildlife; (4) performing any work for the 24 establishment, restoration, improvement, control and protection of wildlife habitats; (5) performing any work to create and maintain 25 26 facilities for ingress and egress for public use of any area under said 27 commissioner's control; (6) regulating hunting seasons and bag limits 28 for all harvestable wildlife species within Connecticut; (7) managing 29 public hunting and wildlife recreational opportunities on state-owned, state-leased, permit-required areas and cooperative wildlife 30 31 management areas; and (8) conducting, with volunteer assistance, 32 conservation education and safety programs to promote safe and ethical hunting practices. Said commissioner may expend from federal 33 34 aid funds necessary moneys for supplies, materials, equipment, 35 temporary personal services and contractual services to carry out the 36 provisions of this section. Any utilization of such powers by the 37 commissioner shall be documented and subject to disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. Such documentation shall include, 38 39 but not be limited to: An explanation of the need for such use, the 40 duration of such use, a description of the power used, the location 41 where such power was used, the names of the persons or entities that 42 may take animals pursuant to the plan, any conditions of the plan, the methods used under the plan and any species taken under the plan." 43